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Computer Dictionary

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Apple II

application binary interface

long cited as a shortcoming of the Macintosh com-pared with IBM PCs and compatibles. This feature, along with other layout changes and the addition of new keys and lights, makes the Apple Extended Keyboard quite similar in form to the IBM enhanced keyboard. See the illustration. *See also* enhanced keyboard.

Apple II \ap'l too'\ *n.* The second computer introduced by the Apple Computer Corporation, in April 1977. The Apple II featured 4K dynamic RAM, expandable to 48K (with 16K chips), and used the 6502 microprocessor. The Apple II was the first computer to offer a TV video adapter as an optional alternative to a color computer moni-tor. It also featured sound and eight expansion slots. *See also* 6502.

Apple key \ap'l kē'\ *n.* A key on Apple keyboards labeled with an outline of the Apple logo ⌘. On the Apple Extended Keyboard, this key is the same as the Command key, which functions similarly to the Control key on IBM and compatible key-boards. It is generally used in conjunction with a character key as a shortcut to making menu selec-tions or starting a macro.

Apple Macintosh \ap'l mak'ən-tosh\ *n. See* Mac-intosh.

Apple Newton \ap'l noo'tən\ *n. See* Newton.

AppleScript \ap'l-skript'\ *n.* A script language used with Macintosh computers running under the System 7 operating system to execute commands and automate functions. *See also* script.

AppleShare \ap'l-shâr'\ *n.* File server software that works with the Mac OS and allows one Mac-

intosh computer to share files with another on the same network. *See also* file server, Mac OS.
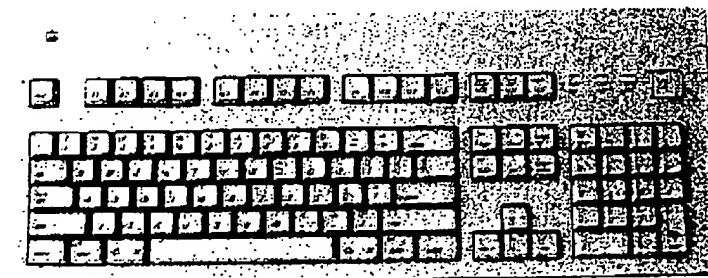
applet \a'plət\ *n.* A small piece of code that can be transported over the Internet and executed on the recipient's machine. The term is especially used to refer to such programs as they are embedded in line as objects in HTML documents on the World Wide Web.

AppleTalk \ap'l tāk'\ *n.* An inexpensive local area network developed by Apple that can be used by Apple and non-Apple computers to communicate and share resources such as print-ers and file servers. Non-Apple computers must be equipped with AppleTalk hardware and suit-able software. The network uses a layered set of protocols similar to the ISO/OSI model and transfers information in the form of packets called frames. AppleTalk supports connections to other AppleTalk networks through devices known as bridges, and it supports connections to dissimilar networks through devices called gateways. *See also* bridge, frame (definition 2), gateway.
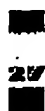
application \a'plə-kā'shən\ *n.* A program de-signed to assist in the performance of a specific task, such as word processing, accounting, or inventory management. *Compare* utility.

application binary interface \a-plə-kā'shən bī'-nor-ē in'tər-fās, bī'när-ē\ *n.* A set of instructions that specifies how an executable file interacts with the hardware and how information is stored. *Acro-nym:* ABI (A'B-I'). *Compare* application program-ming interface.

Apple Extended Keyboard.

27